

# Rony Daniel Kubat

293 Cardinal Medeiros Ave. #3 rony@kubat.org  
Cambridge, MA 02141 617.955.0275

## Education **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

PhD Computer Science, 2012 (Thesis title: *Will They Buy?*) Research advisor: Professor Deb Roy.  
MS Computer Science, 2007 (Thesis title: *A context-sensitive meta-classifier for color-naming*), GPA: 5/5  
BS Mechanical Engineering, 2001 } GPA: 4.7/5  
BS Computer Science, 2001 }

## Technical **Cognitive Machines Group, MIT Media Lab, Research Assistant** (2005-2011)

Research focus on computational models of human behavior in public spaces. These models are grounded on thousands of hours of video captured in multiple buildings, and may be used to optimize new designs for social and functional performance. Software lead: TotalRecall, a tool to browse and annotate a petabyte of raw audio and video data. Mechanical lead: Speechome Recorder, a diagnostic tool for autism. Programmer: Trisk, Cognitive Machines' platform for language grounding research.

### **Bluefin Labs, First Employee** (2008-2009)

Developed software prototypes and proofs-of-concept in early-phase startup.

### **Sony Pictures Imageworks, Lead Production Services Technician** (2003-2005)

Managed technical teams supporting production of visual effects for *Spiderman 2*, *Zathura*.

### **Université de Technologie de Compiègne, Visiting Researcher** (2001-2002)

Laboratory instructor. Supported student projects. Assisted principles of mechanical design class.

### **iRobot, Engineering Intern** (Summers, 1998-2001)

Microcontroller programming for robotic toys. Game development, design and project management.

### **MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Student Researcher** (Summer, 1995)

Mechanical and software design for robotic ants. Supervised by James McLurkin and Rodney Brooks.

## Film/Media Science Advising

**The Stepford Wives** Director: Frank Oz; Design: Jack DeGovia. Developed technical backstory for the transformation of the Stepford wives into androids.

**Mini Motors r50rd viral campaign** Crispin Porter Bogusky/Zoic Studios; VFX Supervisor: Loni Peristere. Posed online as an eclectic robotics engineer who transforms Minis into benevolent robots. Advised on visual elements mimicking current state-of-the-art robotics research.

**Blade 3** Writer & Director: David Goyer. Story work and brainstorming regarding biological and futuristic military technologies.

**K-19: The Widowmaker** Director: Kathryn Bigelow; Design: Karl Júlíusson & Michael Novotny; Writer: Christopher Kyle. Advised on 1960's era Russian nuclear submarines and the events onboard during an nuclear accident.

**Untitled James Cameron Mars IMAX 3D** Director: James Cameron; Design: Michael Novotny. Designed realistic components for a fictional piloted voyage to Mars.

## Honors

Runner Up, HBS Business Plan Competition (Social Venture Track): The Watt Campaign  
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Junkyard Wars, US Season 3 (With the team: *The Geeks*).  
International Design Competition (1999), Maebashi, Japan.  
Council for the Arts Scholar (MIT).

## Of Note

Described by Wired Magazine as having a "steady low voice that could pacify a riot." (April 2007)  
Fluent in French, Java, Objective-C (Cocoa), SQL,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Perl, among others.  
Playwright: *The People Sleep...*, *Seventy7*, *Talking to Vegetables*, *Incendiary Evidence*.  
Director: *Lunchtime*, *Beat Furrer*, *Auditions*, *Reactor*.  
Proficient with Solidworks; milling, lathing and other fabrication techniques.

## Publications

- Philip DeCamp, George Shaw, Rony Kubat, Deb Roy. (2010) *An Immersive System for Browsing and Visualizing Surveillance Video*. Proceedings of ACM Multimedia 2010.
- Rony Kubat, Daniel Mirman, Deb Roy. (2009) *Semantic Context Effects on Color Categorization*. The Thirty-first Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Guy Hoffman, Rony Kubat. (2008) *A Hybrid Control System for Puppeteering a Live Robotic Stage Actor*. The Seventeenth International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication. (CoTeSys Cognitive Human-Robot Interaction Best Paper Award.)
- Kai-yuh Hsiao, Stefanie Tellex, Soroush Vosoughi, Rony Kubat, Deb Roy. (2008). *Object Schemas for Responsive Robotic Language Grounding*. Connection Science.
- Kai-yuh Hsiao, Soroush Vosoughi, Stefanie Tellex, Rony Kubat, Deb Roy. (2008). *Object Schemas for Responsive Robotic Language Use*. Third ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction.
- Rony Kubat, Philip DeCamp, Brandon Roy, and Deb Roy. (2007). *TotalRecall: Visualization and Semi-Automatic Annotation of Very Large Audio-Visual Corpora*. Ninth International Conference on Multimodal Interfaces (ICMI 2007)
- Deb Roy, Rupal Patel, Philip DeCamp, Rony Kubat, Michael Fleischman, Brandon Roy, Nikolaos Mavridis, Stefanie Tellex, Alexia Salata, Jethran Guinness, Michael Levit, Peter Gorniak. (2006). *The Human Speechome Project*. Twenty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.